

July 1, 1993

TO: Ken Soucy
FROM: Jim Ronkainen

SUBJECT: June Monthly Report

M/700 DM

Design acceptance (DA) testing of the M/700 DM started and stopped on June 7 due to feeding difficulties with the magazine. Based on the early test results, the magazine box was moved higher inside the receiver to increase the "interference" of the bolt with the head of the round feeding from the magazine. The increased "interference" cut the malfunction rate from approximately 60% to 0% on the guns that were tested. The design for the boxes and receiver have been modified to reflect the higher position of the shell inside the receiver. The early DA testing also revealed that loading a full magazine of magnum cartridges into a rifle with a closed action was extremely difficult. Modification of the magazine follower relieved this difficulty.

Tooling and components for Trial and Pilot (T&P) are underway. The diecasting mold for the long action trigger guards has been successfully run at the vendor. Trigger guards will be available for T&P and catalog samples. The first investment cast samples of the latches and the long action followers have been received and inspected. Investment cast parts are on schedule for T&P. Trial molding runs from the MIM tooling have been run and downstream process development has begun. The first 100 long action BDL stocks from S&K have been run and are now in Ilion. Magnum BDL stocks will be available in mid to late July. Modifications to the long action magazine spring tooling have delayed delivery of parts from mid-June until mid-July. Samples of magazine boxes made to the new design will be available in mid-August for initial T&P testing. Final production tooling for the boxes will be available in mid-September. Changes to the receiver will be done on the Fadal machining center until new cams are available for the tri-ordinate machines.

Design acceptance testing will begin on a small scale during plant shutdown and resume in earnest after shutdown. As many pre-production and production parts as possible will be included in the DA testing.

M/700 Synthetic Stock

The new synthetic long stock mold was run off from 6/22-24. The first samples look very good and are currently in test in the R&D Test Lab. A softer material for the recoil pad was also run at the same time as the stock mold with promising results.

M/700 Classic for 1994 - 6.5 x 55 Swedish

The drawing package and parts list for the 6.5 x 55 Swedish were transmitted in early June. The chamber for the cartridge meets the new SAAMI specifications for this cartridge (translation of the CIP drawing to English units).